

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

July 6, 2004

Malcolm X College 1900 W Van Buren Street Chicago, IL 60612

Re: Compliance Assistance

Facility Visit

EPA ID No: ILD 984 780 254

Dear Sir/Madam:

University and college campus laboratories, power plants and vehicle maintenance facilities— among other locations— must be properly managed. If they are not properly managed, they have the potential to cause serious environmental and public health problems. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) holds educational institutions to the same environmental standards that we expect of the rest of the regulated community. Universities and college administrations must make a real commitment to environmental compliance, and communicate this priority to their staff. Good environmental management systems can reduce significant risks. Responsible compliance with the law and good environmental performance is a sound business practice for industry and should be a sound practice for universities and colleges as well.

U.S. EPA would like to help universities and colleges to comply with environmental laws and requirements. The Waste, Pesticides and Toxics Division, Compliance Assistance Program would like to conduct a Facility Visit at your institution with the focus on your hazardous waste management. The primary purpose of a Facility Visit is to provide environmental assistance to help regulated entities understand, and comply with, environmental requirements. The purpose of a Facility Visit is not to make a compliance determination. If you would like to have a Facility Visit conducted at your institution, please contact me at my email address barringer.uylaine@epa.gov or you can call me to schedule a facility visit at (312) 886-4454.

U.S. EPA also would like to encourage you to consider conducting a self-audit of your university's or college's facilities. U.S. EPA provides incentives for such audits: for those entities that voluntarily discover, disclose, and expeditiously correct violations of environmental law, U.S. EPA will, if certain criteria are met, substantially reduce penalties, in some cases down to no penalty at all. U.S. EPA's audit policy, entitled "Incentives for Self-Policing: Discovery, Disclosure, Correction and Prevention of Violations," may be found at 60 Fed. Reg. 66706 (December 22, 1995) or at

http://www.epa.gov/compliance/incentives/auditing/auditpolicy.html. For more information about U.S. EPA's audit policy, you can contact John Steketee at his e-mail address steketee.john@epa.gov or at his phone number (312) 886-0558.

I hope that your institution will work with U.S. EPA, to ensure a clean environment for all of our citizens. If you feel that there is someone else in your university or college who should have received this letter, please let me know, and pass this letter on to the appropriate recipient.

If you require additional information, please contact me at my e-mail address <u>barringer.uylaine@epa.gov</u> or call me at (312) 886-4454.

Sincerely yours,

leglaine Barringer

Uylaine Barringer Compliance Assistance Program Manager Waste Management Branch Waste, Pesticides and Toxics Division